

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of: /
Seth A. Foerster /
/ /
Filed: HEREWITH /
/ /
For: SINGLE-TAILED SUTURING METHOD /
AND APPARATUS /

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

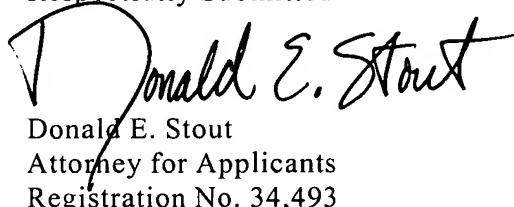
Sir:

In accordance with 37 C.F.R. 1.56 and 1.97, Applicants wish to call the attention of the Examiner to the references that are listed on the attached PTO form 1449. No copies of the references are being provided per 37 C.F.R. 1.98(d), since all of the references were cited by or submitted to the Office in parent application U.S. Serial Number 09/949,249.

Applicant respectfully requests that the cited references be listed on the face of any patent issuing from this application.

These citations do not constitute an admission that the references are relevant or material to the claims, but rather only constitute the closest art of which Applicants are presently aware.

Respectfully Submitted


Donald E. Stout
Attorney for Applicants
Registration No. 34,493

December 31, 2003
4 Venture, Suite 300
Irvine, CA 92618
949-450-1750

<p>Form PTO-1449 INFORMATION DISCLOSURE CITATION IN AN APPLICATION (Use several sheets if necessary)</p>			Docket Number (Optional) A1610con		Application Number unknown	
			Applicant Foerster			
			Filing Date Herewith		Group Art Unit 3731	
U. S. PATENT DOCUMENTS						
EXAMINER INITIAL	DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	NAME	CLASS	SUBCLASS	RULING DATE IF APPROPRIATE
	2,600,395	06/17/52	Domoj et al.			
	4,946,377	8/07/1990	Kovach			
	5,062,344	11/05/91	Gerker			
	5,405,352	04/11/95	Weston			
	5,540,703	07/30/96	Barker, Jr. et al.			
	4,792,336	12/88	Hlavacek et al.			
	4,987,665	01/91	Dumican			
	5,217,495	06/93	Kaplan et al.			
	5,376,118	12/94	Kaplan et al.			
	5,263,984	11/93	Li			
	5,259,846	11/93	Granger et al.			
	5,450,860	09/95	O'Connor			
	5,667,528	12/97	Colligan			
	5,683,417	11/04/1997	Cooper			
FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS						
	DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	COUNTRY	CLASS	SUBCLASS	TRANSLATION
						YES
	WO 96/17544	6/13/1996	PCT			
	196 28 909	1/29/1998	Germany			
OTHER DOCUMENTS (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.)						
EXAMINER			DATE CONSIDERED			

EXAMINER: Initial if citation considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP § 609; Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. **Include copy of this form with next communication to the applicant.**